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For release: **Immediate**

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ASHTON-TATE ANNOUNCES
FRAMEWORK III DEVELOPER'S TOOLKIT

A comprehensive set of utilities
enhance productivity for Framework developers

TORRANCE, Calif., July 17, 1989 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation

(NASDAQ: TATE) today announced the Framework III Developer's Toolkit,

a set of utilities and detailed documentation for software developers

to extend the capabilities of Framework III. The product will begin

shipping by July 31, 1989 and carry a suggested manufacturer's price

of $250; it will be sold directly through Ashton-Tate.

Framework III is integrated decision support software that

includes six application functions: word processing, spreadsheet,

database, graphics, outlining and data communications including

electronic mail. Framework III also includes FRED, an object

oriented programming language that can be used to modify the

application modules within Framework, or to create new applications.

"The announcement of the Framework III Developer's Toolkit

further enlarges the Framework family of products," said Bill Lyons,

Ashton-Tate's Vice President and General Manager of the Applications

Group. "Framework is now available in ten foreign languages, in

(more)

single user and LAN versions and in a RunTime edition. The Framework

III Developer's Toolkit provides Framework developers with the tools

they've asked for to enhance their Framework applications."

"The Framework III Developer's Toolkit can be used effectively by

both beginning and advanced developers," said Bob Kimball,

Ashton-Tate's Director of Decision Support Products. "For beginners,

it offers detailed documentation for learning and using the FRED

programming language. For the advanced programmer, routines, tips

and techniques on the subtleties of FRED assist in increasing

productivity. In addition, both users will benefit from the sample

calendar/scheduling application included with the Toolkit."

Features & Benefits

The Framework III Developer's Toolkit includes these features and

benefits:

-- A calendar/scheduling application is included with the
   Framework III Developer's Toolkit. This working business
   application contains several modules integrated in a single
   menu system. It comes with FRED and C source code that can
   be used as is or modified for use in other programs.

-- Ninety-nine user-defined functions (UDF's): 53 are brand
   new, 46 are modifications of the functions in the Framework
   II Developer's Toolkit. Each UDF comes with source code and
   can be used as is or modified.

-- A utility program is included for developers to easily
   customize the Framework III setup option.

-- A low level interface offers 24 built-in services, so that
   developers can call native machine code modules from within
   FRED programs.

--   A full set of service routines is included to read and write data from frames on the desktop, access the screen and keyboard, and manipulate FRED from low level code.

--   A discussion of program design philosophy leads into novel uses of frames technology, custom screen design, error trapping, computer-aided instruction, machine language interfacing and other advanced programming techniques.

--   The software's Driver Construction Kits include:
  - MKSCRN for EGA and VGA screen drivers
  - MKPRNT for Framework II, Framework III and dBASE IV printer drivers
  - MKPLOT for Framework II and Framework III plotter drivers

--   All C source code is compatible with Microsoft C and Borland's Turbo C.

Upgrades, Ordering Information

Upgrades from the Framework II Developers Toolkit to the Framework III Developer's Toolkit are available directly from Ashton-Tate for $100. Customers wishing to upgrade must send in the Table of Contents page from the Framework II Developer's Toolkit documentation.

Both the upgrade and the Framework III Developer's Toolkit are available directly from Ashton-Tate. To order, customers should call Ashton-Tate's Customer Service at (213) 329-9989.

Ashton-Tate Corporation markets best-selling business application software for DOS, Macintosh and OS/2 environments. Products are available in five major categories: database management systems, word processing, graphics, integrated decision support software and spreadsheets. Ashton-Tate also offers a variety of software

applications, tools and utilities, as well as a library of best-selling computer hardware. The company also markets a comprehensive line of service and support programs for individuals, corporations, and government agencies.

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